Asterisk

Morimoto Shuu

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アスタリスク
ASTERISK
16

HE DOESN'T HAVE THE AURA OF A MANIFIS
...IS IT A REPLICA THAT GUY'S CONTROL-LING...?
〈TENRI AND SLEET〉
How nice he likes you.
I get it already quit kick-ing me.
clomp
clomp
It's nice to visit earth every once and a while Right Sleet?
That's right you get lonely
SNORT
Hey now no pulling my hair
That's an order Take him with you.

WAIT... CAN HE ACTUALLY SEE ME?
THAT... IS ONE OF THE SEVEN ANGELS.
?
Eep!
HUH... THEN WHAT IS HE...?
HE ISN'T A MANIFIS
THAT INSIGNIA

THERE'S SOMETHING... OUTSIDE?
THERE'S A GUY...!
WHERE?
YOU SURPRISED ME!
WHY ARE YOU OUTSIDE THE WINDOW. IT'S THREE STORIES UP!
Ah!
swish
Tap
Tap
Tap
Tap
—...I GUESS THERE MUST BE.
HE..

AN ENVOY ...?
IS AN ENVOY FROM THE SOUL PRISON
WHY IS HE ON EARTH ...?
THEY APPEAR ON EARTH TO TAKE THE SOULS DESTINED FOR PRISON WITH THEM.

LIM... WHAT'S THIS PRISON...?
BUT ON EARTH, ONLY THOSE OF HIS CLAN SHOULD BE ABLE TO SEE HIM...
THE SOULS OF UNREPENTANT HUMANS WHO LOST THEIR WAY IN LIFE ARE TAKEN THERE.

IS HE HERE FOR DENNY...?
NOT RIGHT AWAY
HE'S COME FOR THE FINAL JUDGMENT, WHICH WILL DECIDE IF THE SOUL'S OWNER SHOULD BE SENT TO PRISON
Click
DID YOU COME TO TAKE DENNY'S SOUL?

HOW... CAN THEY SEE ME?
THERE MUST BE SOME MISTAKE.
I'VE KNOWN HIM SINCE HE WAS BORN...
Hey now
HE'S NOT POLITE, AND AT FIRST GLANCE HE SEEMS KINDA SCARY...
BUT HE'S A CARING GUY, AND MORE RELIABLE THAN YOU'D THINK.
HE'D NEVER DO ANYTHING REALLY BAD!
—...I DO NOT KNOW THE DETAILS OF HIS CRIMES,
BUT HE'S ON THE LIST.

STOP TIME!
MANIFIS ARE COMING.
GREEN, GET AWAY FROM THE WINDOW...
THEY'RE HERE!
TIME DIDN'T STOP ...!?
WHAT NOW?

Huff
Swsh
Gyaaa
SLAM SLAM
Eeee
WHAT'S THAT!?

CRUMBLE
WHAT WAS THAT ...?
A MANIFIS YOU'VE NEVER SEEN ONE?
WELL... NO, I HADN'T
SO—...
—AH, NO..
SWISH

SWIPE
ZOOM
RUSH
OH!

SMASH
CRUMBLE
POOF
Oh?

Stay back.
Cough!
HEY, WHAT'S GOING ON!?
IS THERE SOMETHING IN HERE TOO!?
KIO, THAT'S A MANIFIS IN HUMAN FORM
GREEN!?
GOT IT.
IT'S NOT POSSESSING SOMEONE.
HSWSH
THUD
Den
!?

SWOOSH
SWIRL
SWIRL

GRAB
GLITTER
Hmmm
YOURS ARE THE COLOR OF THE SUN...
SO YOU'RE HIM, HUH?
Aaaah!
fwoom

SWISH
GLITTER
GYAAAH
BOOM
BOOM
WHAT
!?

IF YOU GIVE THE OTHERS HALF YOUR ATTENTION,
THIS HALF WILL GET DESTROYED.
HOW ABOUT YOUR WHOLE ATTENTION? BRING BOTH ARMS INTO THE FIGHT.
WHOOSH
WHAT THE? MY BODY'S GONE NUMB.
THIS GUY... IS STRONG.
Thrust

FLASH
GLIMMER
GO.
GRAB
I CAN'T LET YOU RUIN MY PLANS.
CRAP !
WHY ARE YOU TARGETING HIM?

BECAUSE HE IS NO LONGER NEEDED.
WH... WHAT DO YOU MEAN!?
AND NEITHER ARE ANGELS
BUT WHAT TO DO ABOUT YOU? LORD ZEHTA'S RATHER FOND OF YOU.
ZEHTA ...!?
MY ENTIRE BODY'S GONE NUMB. I CAN'T MOVE.
CRASH
CRASH
CRASH
CRASH

YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO HAVE SO MUCH FUN TEASING MY SWEET PUPIL HERE.
TELL ZEHTA THIS... HE WON'T GET HIS "OTHER HALF" BACK AGAIN.
ANOTHER HURDLE...
GRUMBLE

SWOOSH
POP
HE GOT AWAY ...?
YEAH, HE PROBABLY BORROWED ZEHTA'S POWER.
ARE YOU OK, KIO?
I'VE HEARD THE NAME BEFORE, BUT...
WHO'S THIS .. "ZEHTA"?
WHY ARE THE MANIFIS TARGETING AN ENVOY FROM THE SOUL PRISON?

YOU KNOW ...
WHAT MANIFIS REALLY ARE, RIGHT?
MAYBE IT'S ABOUT TIME WE TALK...
THE SITUATION'S CHANGED A BIT.
BUT FIRST, WHAT ABOUT FRAW AND GREEN?
OH!
THAT'S RIGHT!

FRAW!!
—KIO.

FRAW USED TOO MUCH POWER IN THE VALLEY.
HE MUST HAVE BEEN A BADASS, FOR YOU TO BE THIS BEAT..
SORRY I COULDN'T HELP, KIO.
YEAH, I WAS JUST CAUGHT A LITTLE OFF GUARD...
DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT, ARE YOU OK?
THERE
IT'S JUST A SHELL
GREEN!?
IN THERE.
AND GREEN?
CRACK
CRUMBLE
CRUMBLE

GREEN
RUSTLE
ARE YOU OK, GREEN?
TENRI..?
BEFORE I WAS ENGULFED IN BLACK... I DESPERATELY TRIED TO GET AWAY...
AND A MAN SAVED ME
YOU REMEMBER.. WHO YOU ARE?

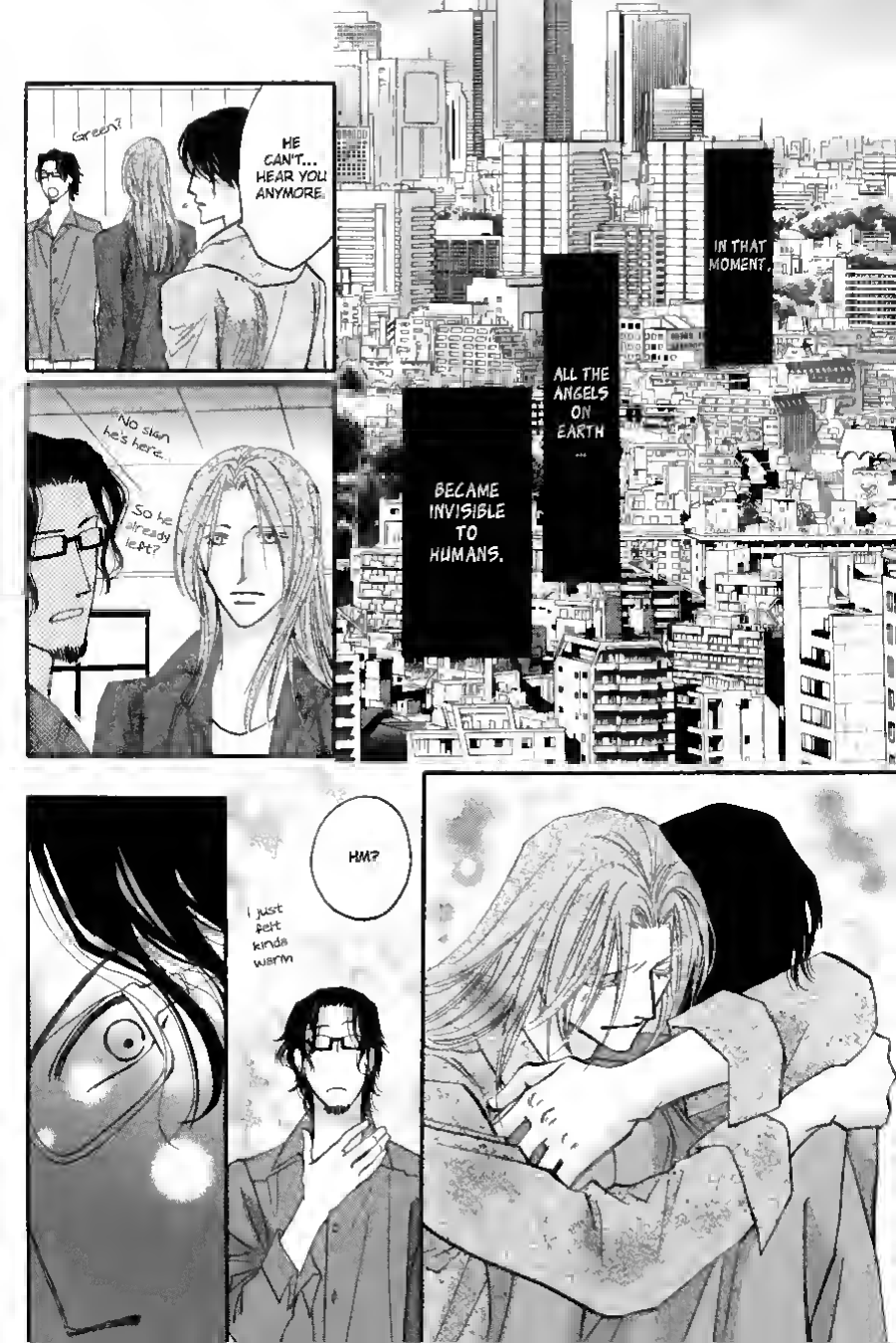
Oh, you're OK?
I REMEMBER TOO.
WHEN I WAS LITTLE, YOU'D SLEEP IN OUR LIVING ROOM
AND ON COLD NIGHTS ..
SORRY FOR MAKING YOU WORRY.
YEAH.
YOU'D ALWAYS BE WRAPPED UP IN WHAT LOOKED LIKE WINGS.
BUT NO ONE BELIEVED WHAT A LITTLE KID SAID..
AND EVENTUALLY I STOPPED SEEING IT.
I'D TOTALLY FORGOTTEN.
And you're almost always on the road
DENNY ...
SO YOU REALLY ARE AN ANGEL, HUH?
YEAH... BUT I STILL CAN'T REMEMBER ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED WHEN I LOST MY MEMORY

—DENNY BARTON.
HIS NAME HAS DISAP-PEARED FROM THE LIST.
?
Someone there again...?
PHEW...
Huh? What's up?
It's going to be fine...
THINGS SUDDENLY GOT STRANGE
BECAUSE THE MANIFIS WERE POS-SESSING THAT BOOK?
COULD THE LIST HAVE BEEN ALTERED...

THINGS THAT COULDN'T BE SEEN ARE VISIBLE.
UP UNTIL NOW, SOUL PRISON ENVOYS AND MANIFIS COULDN'T SEE EACH OTHER.
AND JUST NOW, WE COULDN'T STOP TIME
YOU THINK.. THE MANIFIS CAUSED IT?
I'LL HEAD BACK AND VALIDATE THE BOOK.
OKAY WE'LL HEAD BACK TO THE ANGEL WORLD AND HEAL THE TREES
YEAH DENNY, I'LL SEE YOU LATER ...
COULD BE
I'LL BET SOME HUMANS WERE AL-TERED, TOO.
DENNY?

YOU GUYS SEEM KINDA FAINT.
I'M NOT REALLY SURE, BUT...
FAINT..?
...NO WAY... WHAT THE...
AND YOUR VOICES SOUND LIKE THEY'RE COMING FROM FAR AWAY
I'M RIGHT HERE, DENNY!
YEAH, I KNOW.
BUT YOU'RE GROWING FAINTER AND FAINTER.
GREEN.

I DON'T REALLY GET WHAT YOU'RE DOING, BUT..
DO YOUR BEST
THANKS FOR EVERY-THING YOU'VE DONE
EVEN IF I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO SEE YOU AGAIN, WE'LL ALWAYS BE FRIENDS
BUT... WE'RE GOING TO SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN!
DENNY ...
DENNY!!


Green?
HE CAN'T... HEAR YOU ANYMORE.
No sign he's here.
So he already left?
IN THAT MOMENT,
ALL THE ANGELS ON EARTH ...
BECAME INVISIBLE TO HUMANS.
HM?
I just felt kinda warm

CHIEF!
Is something wrong?
Are you OK?
Knock Knock Knock
—GREEN?
POP
THANK YOU, DENNY.
H... HUH?
CLICK
HE WENT BACK TO WHERE HE CAME FROM.
YEAH...
GREEN?

THEY REALLY CAN'T SEE US, HUH.
NO REASON TO WORRY ABOUT FLYING LOW
GREEN, YOU OK?
YEAH, I'M FINE NOW
THAT REMINDS ME... UM.
I GO BY FT.
HOW EXACTLY DO YOU GET BACK HOME, FT?
THE SAME AS ANGELS, A PATH THROUGH A TREE.
I SHOULD HAVE THANKED YOU EARLIER...
FOR WHAT HAPPENED BEFORE.
YOU'D NEVER SEEN A MANIFIS BEFORE.
YOU COULDN'T HAVE KNOWN WHAT TO DO.
WE SHOULD REALLY BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEM...
BUT SINCE WE COULDN'T SEE THEM ON EARTH UNTIL JUST NOW, WE HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO ASK ANGELS TO TAKE CARE OF THEM.

MANIFIS ARE HUMAN SOULS THAT HAVE ESCAPED FROM THE SOUL PRISON.
...WHY WOULD THAT BE...?
THEY ASKED ANGELS ...?
KIO...
HUMAN ...?

HUMAN SOULS...
HAVE BEEN ATTACKING OTHER SOULS AND PEOPLE...!?
AND I'VE... BEEN DE-STROYING THEM?
MEW
IT'S A SAD REALITY, BUT WE HAVE TO GET PAST THAT AND DESTROY THEM.
BUT I FIGURE IT'S TIME EVERYONE KNOWS
WE'VE KEPT IT SECRET TO AVOID A FUSS,

I GET IT...
GULP
YEAH, WE HAVE TO SAVE THEM
ALL THE SOULS.
WAIT... THEN IS ZEHTA ...?
HE HAS THE POWER TO OPEN A PATH FROM THE SOUL PRISON THAT SOULS CAN FLEE THROUGH
HE'S NOT DOING IT TO FREE THEM...
BUT RATHER THAT HE ENJOYS USING THEM TO CAUSE CHAOS ON EARTH

◆ Asterisk 16 / End ◆